

Evening Telegraph

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THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1867.

The Development of the Southern Situation.

The great meeting of freedmen held at Petersburg, Va., on Monday, and the remarkable letter of John Minor Botts read to that meeting, and published in full in our columns yesterday, show that the frequently expressed opinion that the colored citizens of the South will vote the Democratic ticket in accordance with the dictates of their old masters, must be received with a great deal of allowance. Similar testimony is afforded by the immense mass meeting of freedmen held in Knoxville, Tennessee, and addressed by the leading orators, white and black, of that State. To the same effect are the persistent efforts which are being made by Sharkey, Walker, Jenkins & Co., to obstruct the execution of the Reconstruction law. All these things go to show that the old dynasty that has so long held sway in the South—a dynasty founded on slavery and aristocracy—is about to pass away. It is already melting like mist before the rising sun of freedom and equality.

There are two classes of the old Rebel Slave States. First, those in which the whites have a largely preponderating majority of the population; and, secondly, those in which the blacks are nearly one-half or more than one-half of the people. Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, and Arkansas are examples of the former; South Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana are types of the latter. Now, in all the former class of States there is a large body of original and persistent Unionists—men who never believed in the Rebellion and never went into it, but, on the contrary, did all they could to oppose it, and in many instances suffered very severely by it. It may safely be anticipated that this body of original Unionists, which now forms the nucleus of the Republican party in each of these States, will take good care that the colored citizens shall be thoroughly informed as to the true bearings of the political struggle in which they are about to become active participants. This Petersburg meeting shows how it will be done in Virginia, and the Knoxville meeting shows how the thing is working in Tennessee. In North Carolina the Republicans, white and black, have already organized and adopted a platform which fully covers the great issues of the day. Proceedings of a similar character have been held in Arkansas. In these States we have never had a moment's doubt that the Republicans, by a thorough organization and canvass, would be able to carry the day. The colored population of these States is more intelligent than that of the Gulf States, and is already well posted in the political movements of the day.

In regard to the States where the blacks form a full moiety of the inhabitants, the only possible hope of the Democrats for success is in dividing the vote of the colored citizens. This they have commenced working for in good earnest. The speech of Wade Hampton shows the line of policy they intend to pursue. And it is worthy of observation, that the tone of the press in these States is much more conciliatory towards the colored citizens than it is in those States where the two races are not so evenly divided. If the Democrats shall succeed in gaining any large portion of the colored vote in these States, it can only be at the expense of conceding to the blacks the fullest guarantees for political equality—such guarantees as could only be violated at the imminent risk of a bloody revolution. Said Wade Hampton to the blacks, at Columbia, "If after we have framed a new Constitution, you find in it one law for the white man, and another for the black man, then vote it down, and refuse us your confidence."

This, then, is the aspect of the Southern problem, so far as it relates to the vote of the colored citizens. In all those States where there is a nucleus of the original Union element around which the negro can rally, he will do so, and the Republicans will carry the day. In the States where the two races are pretty evenly divided, and where the whites were almost unanimously Rebels, the contest will be more doubtful, but can be carried by neither party without giving the strongest guarantees to the blacks of civil and political equality.

EUROPEAN COMPLICATIONS.—Foreign despatches indicate a difficulty between England and Spain, and also between Turkey and Greece. When combined with the threatening attitude of France, Prussia, and Holland, to say nothing of Italy and Austria, we think that Europe looks "unsettled." We do not think, however, that the Eastern question will result in war, for the known sympathy between Russia and Greece will deter the Porte from any attack on the latter power. We should not be surprised, however, to see a collision between Spain and England, if the Spanish monarch still persists in refusing indemnity for the Tornado. In case of such a war, it would be well for our Government, with all its getting of territory, to keep an eye on Cuba. The Spanish Territory is not replete with coin, and the Spanish credit is not so good as to render the purchase-money of the island a blessing to her Most Catholic Majesty in case of foreign war. With Yankee shrewdness, we must watch Cuba, which is worth a hundred Russian Americas, prospectively as they may be.

Nominations for the New York Constitutional Convention.

As our readers are aware the State of New York is about to elect delegates to a Constitutional Convention to revise her Constitution. By the terms of the law calling the Convention thirty-two of the delegates are to be elected by a general ticket throughout the State, only sixteen of whom are to be voted for by any one person. The object of this magnanimous feature of the law, passed by a Republican Legislature, is to give each of the two great parties a chance to elect sixteen of their best men to the Convention.

Nominating Conventions were held yesterday by both parties—the Republicans at Syracuse, and by the Democrats at Albany—and their respective tickets put in the field. The Republicans nominated Waldo Hutchins, William Evans, George Opyke, A. J. R. Duganne, George W. Curtis, Horace Greeley, Joshua M. Van Cott, Ira Harris, Erastus Cook, Martin J. Townsend, William A. Wheeler, Charles Andrews, Tracy Beadle, Charles J. Folger, Erastus Crosser, and Augustus Frank.

This as a whole is an able ticket. Mr. Evans is the distinguished Republican lawyer of New York city, who was supported as Seward's successor in the Senate at the time when Ex-Senator Harris was elected. George W. Curtis is the accomplished editor of *Harper's Weekly*, and one of the finest political writers and speakers in the country. Mr. Greeley is known everywhere as the editor of the *Tribune*. Judge Harris is an able lawyer, of great judicial as well as political experience. Charles J. Folger is at present one of the leading members of the New York Senate, and is an able and experienced legislator. The presence of such men as these cannot fail to exert a happy influence upon the Convention.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Republican Convention.

"Resolved, That the delegates to the coming Constitutional Convention, this day appointed, be instructed to support, by every honorable means, an amendment giving to the black man the same rights of ballot as to the white man."

The Democratic Convention passed no resolutions, and nominated the following ticket:—Augustus Schell, George Law, Henry C. Murphy, Homer A. Nelson, David L. Seymour, Jacob W. Hardenburgh, Smith N. Weed, Alonzo C. Paige, Francis Kernan, George F. Comstock, John Magee, Henry D. Basto, Isaac Butts, H. C. Cheesebrough, John G. Martin, Marshall B. Champlain.

There are some strong men on this ticket, such as Judge Paige, Henry C. Murphy, Francis Kernan, John Magee, and Homer A. Nelson, and they will make valuable members of the proposed Convention.

That feature of the law which has secured the presence of thirty-two of the ablest men of both parties in the Convention, is worthy of particular commendation, and may well be followed as a precedent by other States.

A RADICAL VICTORY.—The election in Jersey City yesterday resulted in a gain of nearly six hundred votes for the Republican party. Heretofore they have always lost the town by over five hundred. This year they have carried it by eighty-five majority. The fact that the victors were opposed to the influx of the Democracy of New York, who come on Sunday to drink in Jersey City, since the Registry act in the Metropolis, had a great deal to do with the victory. The Democracy, to carry favor with the largest portion of the population, were ready to turn the city into a beer garden and brothel. But they overstepped their mark, and all respectable citizens, uniting with the Republicans, placed in power a Mayor who will not favor the gratification of debauchees in order to secure their political influence.

CONDITION OF OUR NATIONAL BANKS.—The exhibit of the condition of our National Banks, published this morning, shows accurately the state of their finances before the commencement of business on the morning of the 1st of April. The aggregate resources of the Banks of New York amount to \$377,790,364; in Philadelphia, to \$78,045,537; in Boston, to \$127,004,786. The circulation of those of our own city reaches \$11,006,790, while the outstanding notes of the State Banks are reduced to \$135,085. The profits in our city is \$1,705,813, an average of \$569,604 a month. From this data we infer that most of the National Banks are doing a thriving business.

STRIKES.—We regret to notice the prevalence of "strikes" among the working classes. The carpenters, slate roofers, iron men, and coal miners, with we do not know how many more trades, have recently struck for higher wages. We deplore any such remedy. The balance of supply and demand will secure a just remuneration to the laborer, and any combinations, such as those attempted, only provokes antagonism between labor and capital, and looks like an attempt on the part of the former to secure extortion. Without any such conflict we think that justice could be secured.

ANOTHER STEP WESTWARD.—The Kansas branch of the Union Pacific Railroad is expected to reach Salina, four hundred and sixty miles west of St. Louis, on Saturday. Track laying is in progress at the rate of a mile and a half per day.

Salina is close to the great buffalo range of the "plains." Here is a chance for our amateur sportsmen that does not often occur. At the present rate of progress by this road, Denver will not be far off from its terminus by next New Year's day.

ITALIAN OPERA.—The fine comic opera of *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* was admirably performed last evening, at the Academy, by the Paropar-Bignoli Troupe, and the audience was large and appreciative. Madame Parepa, whose forte would seem to be tragedy, was surprised every one by her naive and graceful impersonation of "Rosina." It was a most successful portrayal of the character, and gratified the audience greatly. Vocally it was also highly

enjoyable, the music of the role having been executed in the best possible style, and with all the many requirements necessary to successfully interpret such a florid composition. The "Una voce poco fa" was particularly well given, and was greeted with a well-deserved encore. It was, in truth, splendidly sung, Madame Rosa seeming to sing it *con amore*, and with evident gratification to herself. "Il Bacio," which she introduced in the second act, was as charmingly rendered, and with a finish and brilliancy that made the performance sparkle again. It was also enthusiastically *encored*, and, in fact, all that Parepa was called upon to do was accomplished with the ease, completeness, and grace of the consummate artist.

Ferranti's "Figaro" was an excellent performance, both vocally and histrionically. His "Largo al Factotum" was highly relished by the audience, and was sung and acted as only a finished artist of the buffo school could have done it. His personation of the part was one of the best we have ever been treated to, and entitles him to an exalted position as a buffo singer. Brignoli's *romanza* was very artistically sung, and was warmly applauded, and in the concerted music he was much better than usual.

Susini's "Doctor Bartolo" was a highly unctious performance, and amused the audience vastly. Susini is a wonderfully versatile artist. It matters not what the character is—serious, serio-comic, or comic-positive—he seems perfectly at home in each, and imparts to all the influence of his peculiar genius for the lyric stage. "Don Basilio" was acceptably done by Sarti, and the orchestra was excellent, and was very intelligently led by Signor Niccolao.

This evening Mozart's magnificent *Don Giovanni* will be given, with Parepa, Madame Strakosch, Mad'le Canissa, Brignoli, Susini, Fortuna, and Ferranti in the cast, and a most complete and successful performance of the work may very properly be anticipated.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

[For additional Special Notices see the Second Page.]

THEODORE TILTON ESQ., EDITOR of the "Independent," New York, will lecture under the auspices of the Social, Civil, and Statistical Association, on MONDAY EVENING, April 15, 1867, at Concert Hall, CHESNUT STREET, above Twelfth. Subject, "Corner-stone of Reconstruction." Also, Professor PHILIP LAWRENCE, the eminent Kriegerist, has kindly volunteered to read "Sherridan's Ride," and the celebrated BLACK SWAN will sing.

Tickets admitting a Gentleman and Lady, 50 cents. Single admission, 25 cents.

Doors open at 7 o'clock. To commence at 8 o'clock. Tickets may be had at THOMPSON'S Music Store, 837 NINTH and CHESNUT Streets, and at the door.

OFFICE OF THE TIPOGRAPHY IMPROVEMENT COMPANY, No. 16 PHILADELPHIA EXCHANGE, April 11, 1867. The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the TIPOGRAPHY IMPROVEMENT COMPANY for election of President, Directors, Secretary, and Treasurer, will be held at No. 16 PHILADELPHIA EXCHANGE, on TUESDAY, the seventh day of May, 1867. 4 11 24 104 GEO. H. COLKETT, Secretary.

THE EMPLOYING PLASTERERS OF THE City of Philadelphia and vicinity will meet at the Hall of the Washington House Company, NINTH Street, above Filbert, at 8 o'clock, on THURSDAY EVENING, April 11, 1867. All employing Plasterers are invited to be present. GEORGE GORDON, President. JAMES T. ALLEN, Secretary. 4 11 24

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